

On the surface the outlook for 1948 appears full of contradictions. Dan Bradstreet reported yesterday that grocery prices are dropping. The wholesale food index went off 14 per cent during the year, declining steadily from the peak of July 13.

But the railroads yesterday were granted an additional 5 per cent increase in freight rates, putting them up 52 per cent since the middle of 1946—and the roads say they will have to have still more.

Executive salaries are in the process of being raised by federal and state governments, and the wartime tax load certainly won't be reduced during the coming year.

Real estate inflation appears to have levelled off, with more property on the market and at slightly lower prices; but even here we are confronted with a paradox: While wartime property prices are dropping, the rent level threatens to increase.

That gives you a rough idea of the puzzling picture which confronts the prophets attempting to tell you what the new year will be like.

But the truth is that any change in a nation's economic life, whether upward or downward, proceeds on an uneven scale. Food and housing went up fast at the outbreak of the war. But railroad rates were fairly stable. And the price of many heavy industrial machines did not change materially until after the war was over—then took an astronomical jump.

So a fair estimate of the coming year might be this: That it will be a period of adjustment in which the various elements of our economy catch up with one another. While no one actually knows, it doesn't appear likely that the overall cost of living will continue upward. Rather, the total cost ought to decline, continuing the trend which developed in the last half of 1948.

But it shouldn't drop fast enough to cause any serious financial trouble. The shortage of many items is still too great. And even slightly lower prices will uncover buying power—greatest in our history—to bolster continued production.

The new year may uncover a few months of rough going, but generally speaking America is still several years behind on civilian production and recycling will gradually help matters.

Shadow of Russia Veils Answers to 1949's Problems By JAMES THRASHER

New Year's resolutions are made by individuals, not by nations and their governments. So all of the New Year's Day stock-taking cannot change the tide of international events. The situation is as usual, still carrying on its crest, the great question of war or peace.

Three hundred and sixty-six days have gone by since the last change of date on the calendar, but the question remains the same. The only difference is that 1949 brings us closer to an unknown day of climax and resolution. Five years ago it was said that Russia would not have an atomic bomb "until 1950." Since then it has been said that if war comes it will not come until 1950 or 1952 or 1955. Five years ago these dates seemed safely remote. Now they are almost upon us.

It is impossible to prophesy what will happen in 1949 to decide the great question one way or the other. We shall wait to see. Even speculation must be cautious.

Europe should advance further toward normal life with our help. The Palestine war should end in agreement and the recognition of Israel. They should, but will they? What will happen in China? Will the Berlin blockade be raised? What does the outbreak of rightist uprisings in South American port?

Above all, what change will there be in our relations with Russia? Who will take the initiative, and where will it lead us?

The answer to that is bound up with the problem of our domestic economy. All the domestic problems will hinge upon a crucial judgment. That seems to be one of the most certain among the invariables. The problem is simply this: How much money can we raise; how much money will we raise; how will we spend it?

The prime obligation of the newly elected government that takes office this month must be the nation's security, at home and abroad. The new government will draw up a budget with that in mind. It will have to break down its overall obligation into a multitude of details. It will have to answer questions such as these:

Should there be more and higher taxes? Shall the military budget be fixed or flexible? What gets priority in maintaining security: housing or airplane production? How much more must we spend for world aid, and where? How much more can we spend? Will we have to push military production farther, even if it means aggravating present civilian shortages? And if this must be done, can it be done without government control of prices, wages, labor, management and material?

These and many more vital questions must be answered in 1949. The answers may come in a series of crises. For there are influential groups in the government with diverse and conflicting views on the relative importance of social progress, the status quo, and imperialistic military defense.

Each question will be considered and each answer made in the shadow of Russia's veiled policy and unpredictable tactics. We can only say that those who operate our government and shape our national destiny will be given the wisdom to pierce the veil and predict the unpredictable.

City Hall to Close

Hope City Hall offices will be closed on Jan. 1, it was announced today by City Treasurer Charles Heyington.

Hope Star



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Truman Calls in Top Men to Chart Program

Washington, Dec. 31.—(AP)—President Truman called a strategy session with top lieutenants today to chart the course of the "new deal" program he plans to lay before the 81st Congress Wednesday. Executive salaries are in the process of being raised by federal and state governments, and the wartime tax load certainly won't be reduced during the coming year.

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Three Escape Serious Injury in Wreck

Three sailors narrowly escaped serious injury near Hope about 3 a.m. today when the car in which they were riding left the pavement, jumped about 40 feet down an embankment and landed over in Sandy Bear's Ace Creek.

They were listed by City Police as Glenn D. Stevens, white, Charles G. Garrett and Alvin Murphy, Negroes, citizens from San Diego Naval base to Tennessee.

All suffered minor bruises, cuts and shock from exposure. The car was partially submerged in water. It was demolished. The sailors were hospitalized here.

Traffic Accidents to Kill 120 on New Year's Day

Chicago, Dec. 31.—(UP)—Traffic accidents over the New Year holiday, the National Safety Council estimates, will cost the lives of 170 persons.

The estimate covers a period from 6 p.m. (local time) today until midnight Sunday. The ultimate toll, the council said, may be larger.

There were 270 traffic fatalities over the Christmas holiday last weekend as against a council prediction of 265. Less travel and the sobering influence of the heavy Christmas toll are expected to have a downward influence over the New Year's holiday, the council said.

Major hazards, it said, are drinking and bad weather.

McKellar Named President Pro Tem of Senate

Washington, Dec. 31.—(UP)—Senate Majority Leader, Senator Lucas (Ill.) due to become senate majority leader, and Lucas' house counterpart, Rep. McCormack (Mass.).

Eckley has just returned from a trip to Europe, and Mr. Truman was likely to want a first-hand report on his observations there.

But domestic matters appeared to have been reviewed as well. As a matter of fact the meeting would, in all probability, be the last, even though the two men, Eckley and McCormack, had been in the Senate for only a short time.

The vote was at a meeting of the 51 Democratic senators.

The meeting worked out the slate of officers the Democrats will propose—and put in since they have majority—when the new Senate meets Monday.

The U.S. army announced in Washington Tuesday that portions of the American security forces in Southern Korea, including the seventh division, were being withdrawn for regrouping in Japan.

The United States has contended that complete withdrawal of American troops cannot be accomplished until the greater problem of Korean unity and independence is solved.

Senator Lucas of Illinois then will become majority leader. Senator Myers of Pennsylvania will be the Democratic whip.

The last three leadership posts were filled by unanimous vote. Senator Sparkman of Alabama told a reporter.

"All was peace and harmony," he said.

The president pro tempore presides over the senate when the vice president is absent. The office is chiefly an honorary one, but the senate provides a limousine and chauffeur for the senator who holds it.

McKellar held the office when the Democrats last controlled the senate, during the last two years of Republican control the president pro tempore was Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich.).

Russia Cuts Trade With Yugoslavia

London, Dec. 31.—(UP)—Russian trade with Yugoslavia will be cut 8.5 per cent next year because of Marshal Tito's anti-Soviet attitude, a Moscow dispatch announced today.

The dispatch, carried by the official agency Tass, said a new trade agreement for 1949 was signed between Russia and Yugoslavia in Moscow last Friday.

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Search for Plane Missing Moves to Bahamas

Miami, Fla., Dec. 31.—(UP)—Air craft searching for a missing DC-3 charter airline with 32 persons aboard concentrated on the Bahama Islands chain today after traces were reported seen in the vicinity of Andros Island.

The search was conducted by Chambers, a "colonel bykoy" of the Soviet espionage system for relay to Moscow. Documents uncovered in a pumpkin on Chambers' Maryland farm recently were only a small part of the total, the committee said.

Chambers once carried \$10,000 from New York to San Francisco to finance "West Coast spy activities."

The former Red courier received information and transmitted to Russian agents information on (A) a new self-sealing aviation tank developed by the navy, (B) a metal-bonded bomb-sight, and (C) lists of naval intelligence reports and intelligence of undisclosed foreign governments.

A team of the "minutely precise" high government sources of Chambers' stolen papers set out to find the "colonel bykoy" of the Soviet espionage system for relay to Moscow. Documents recovered in a pumpkin on Chambers' Maryland farm recently were only a small part of the total, the committee said.

Chambers, a "colonel bykoy" of the Soviet espionage system for relay to Moscow, was reported missing from a plane en route to the Bahamas.

The plane was last heard from early Tuesday. A faint radio message from the plane reported its position at about 50 miles south of Miami.

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Russia Reports Troops Have Left Korea

Washington, Dec. 31.—(UPI)—The Soviet council of ministers had decided that all Soviet troops be out of the region by Jan. 1, 1949.

Tass said the evacuation was completed Christmas day. The Soviet council of ministers had decided that all Soviet troops be out of the region by Jan. 1, 1949.

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The Soviet

Social and Personal

Phone 1268 or 1269 Between 9 A. M. and 4 P.M.

Monday, January 3
Circle 1 of the W.S.C.S. of the First Methodist church will meet Monday at 3 p.m. at the church. Hostesses will be Mrs. Dale Bartram and Mrs. O. W. Amos.

Circle 4 of the W.S.C.S. of the First Methodist church will meet Monday at 3 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Edwin Stewart with Mrs. Jet Bundy as associate hostess.

The Executive Board of the Women of the First Presbyterian church will meet Monday at 2:30 p.m. at the church.

Circle 3 of the W.S.C.S. of the First Methodist church will meet Monday at 3 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Don Smith.

Circle 5 of the W.S.C.S. of First Methodist church will meet Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Earl Clifton with Mrs. Claude Tilley co-hostess.

Mrs. Effie Elise Hyatt and George Thomas Frazier wed Saturday at Cemetery.

The First Methodist church of this city was the scene of one of the liveliest weddings of the holiday season, when Miss Effie Elise Hyatt, only daughter of Mrs. Benjamin Carroll Hyatt and George Thomas Frazier, son of Mrs. George Sinclair of St. Louis, Mo., were united in marriage.

The Reverend J. E. Cooper, pastor of the church officiated at the impressive double ring ceremony before a background of fern standards with smilax entwined along the choir and chancel rail. Floor baskets of Calla lilies, white snapdragons, gladioli and stock were interspersed with many candelabra holding tall white cathedral tapers. The aisles were lighted with candles in pew candleabra entwined with plumpas fern and tied with white satin ribbon.

Mrs. R. L. Gosnell, organist, provided the nuptial music which included Liebestraum by Liszt, Romance by Rubenstein, and "Calm as the Night" by Bohm, and accompanied Charles Hyatt, who sang "I Love Thee" and Robert Lee Hyatt, brothers of the bride, who sang "Because". Mrs. Gosnell played "O Promise Me" while Miss Prudence Parker and Miss Maxine Bowden lighted the tapers. Claire De Lune was played softly during the ceremony. The traditional wedding mutes were used as processional and recessional.

The bride, given in marriage by her brother, Carroll Hyatt, was lovely in a wedding gown of ivory satin, fashioned with pointed basque, and fastened down the back with tiny self covered buttons. The deep yoke of nylon net was adorned with tiny bands of satin. The full skirt fell into a cathedral train. Her full length veil of imported Rose Point Duchesse lace was worn with a train of lace and pearlized orange blossoms. Her only ornament was a single strand of pearls, gift of the groom, and she carried a white Bible topped with an ornate gold cross.

Miss Pat McPherson was the bride's maid of honor and bridesmaids were Miss Kathryn Hatley, Miss Dora Lou Franklin, Miss Elizabeth Morris of Heber Springs and Mrs. Don Westbrook. They wore identical dresses of white taffeta fashioned with a round yoke, puffed sleeves and tight fit.

Buffet Supper Honors Mrs. Buster Rogers

Miss Sue Livingston and Miss Aurora Lou Hairston entertained Thursday night from 6:30 to 8 with a buffet supper honoring Mrs. Buster Rogers, a recent bride, in the home of Miss Hairston.

The living room was attractively decorated with arrangements of red geraniums, greenery and potted plants.

The hostesses presented the honoree with a lovely corsage of yellow carnations and a gift of her chosen pattern of crystal.

The dining table, covered with a white damask cloth was centered with a low bowl of red roses. The bullet head arrangement of red napkins and red candles in single candleholders.

The guest list included: the honoree, Miss Bonnie Anthony, Miss Barbara LaGrone, Miss Ruby Neil Parsons, Miss Jo Ann Card, Miss Laura Ann Garafio, Mrs. John Cecil Weaver, Mrs. Jimmy Simms, Miss Martha Ann Atkins, Miss Clark Brown and Miss Betty Martin.

Victor Craine Honored With Birthday Dinner

Victor Craine was honored with a birthday dinner at the Club House, Yellow Creek, Wednesday evening, December 29. A delightful dinner and birthday cake was served to the following guests: Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Nunn, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Bressler, Mr. and Mrs. John Robert Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Jeffries, Miss Mary Jo Monroe and Victor Craine.

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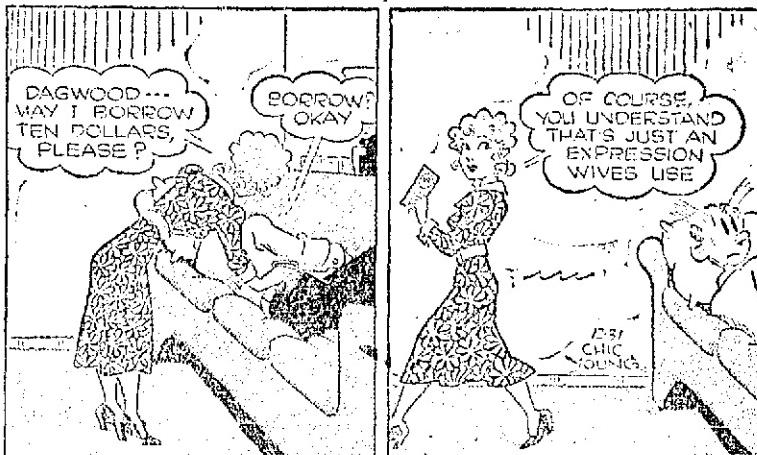
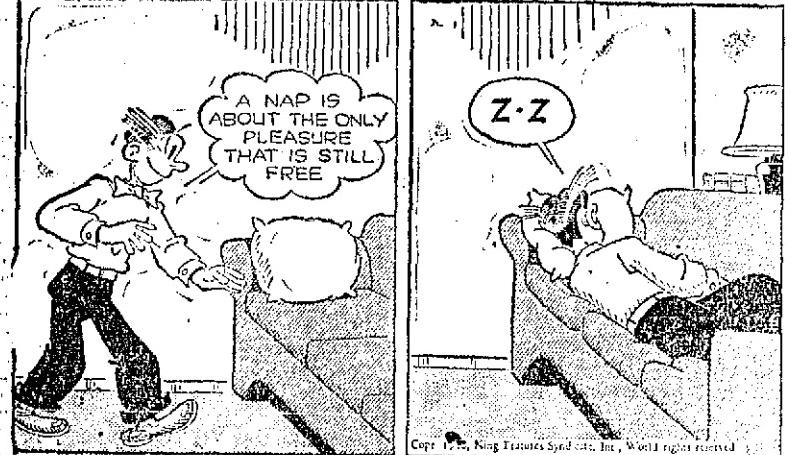
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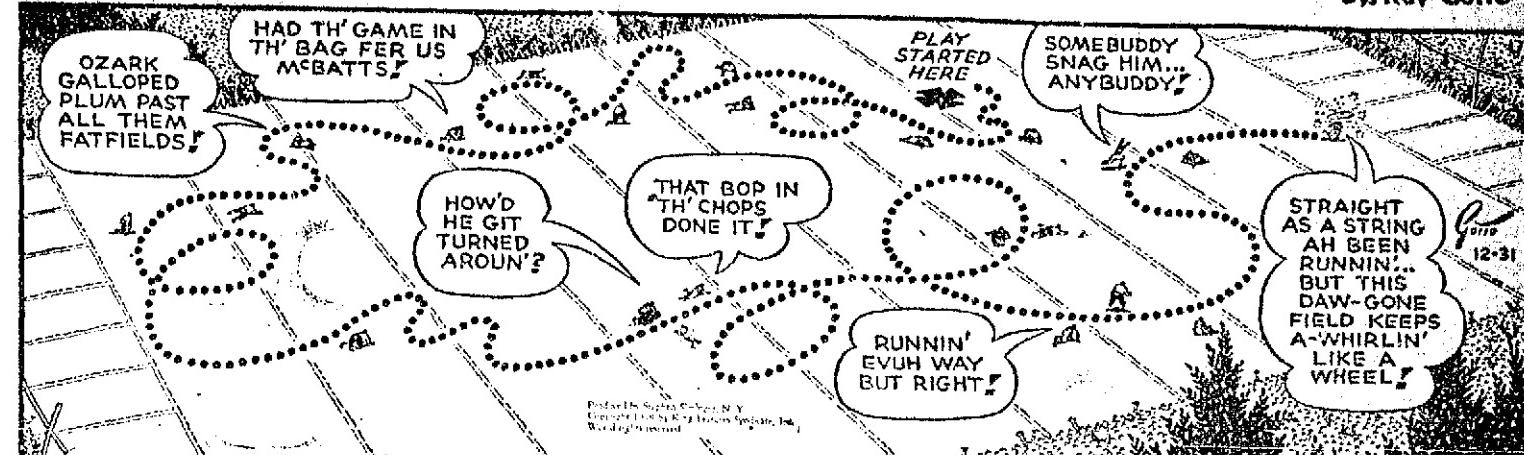
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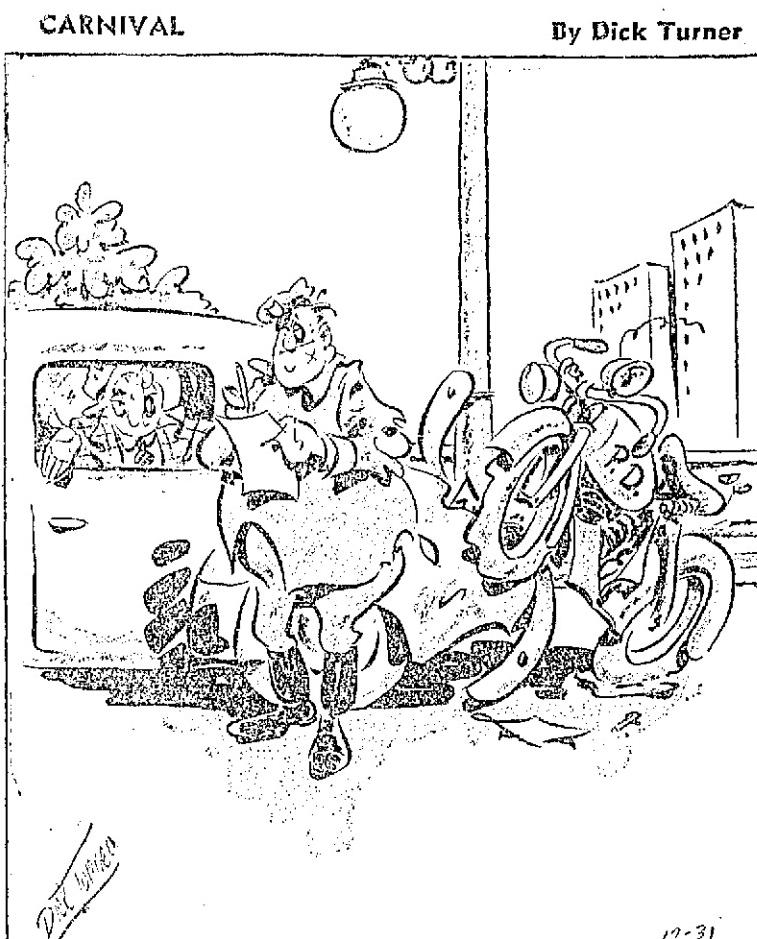
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SIDE GLANCES



By Galbraith

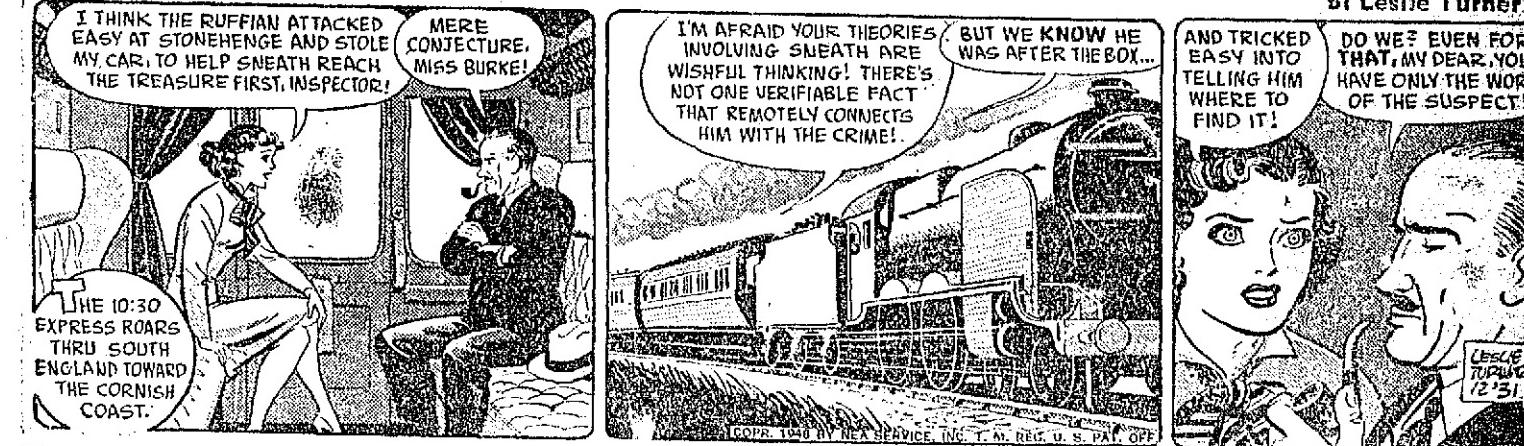


By Dick Turner

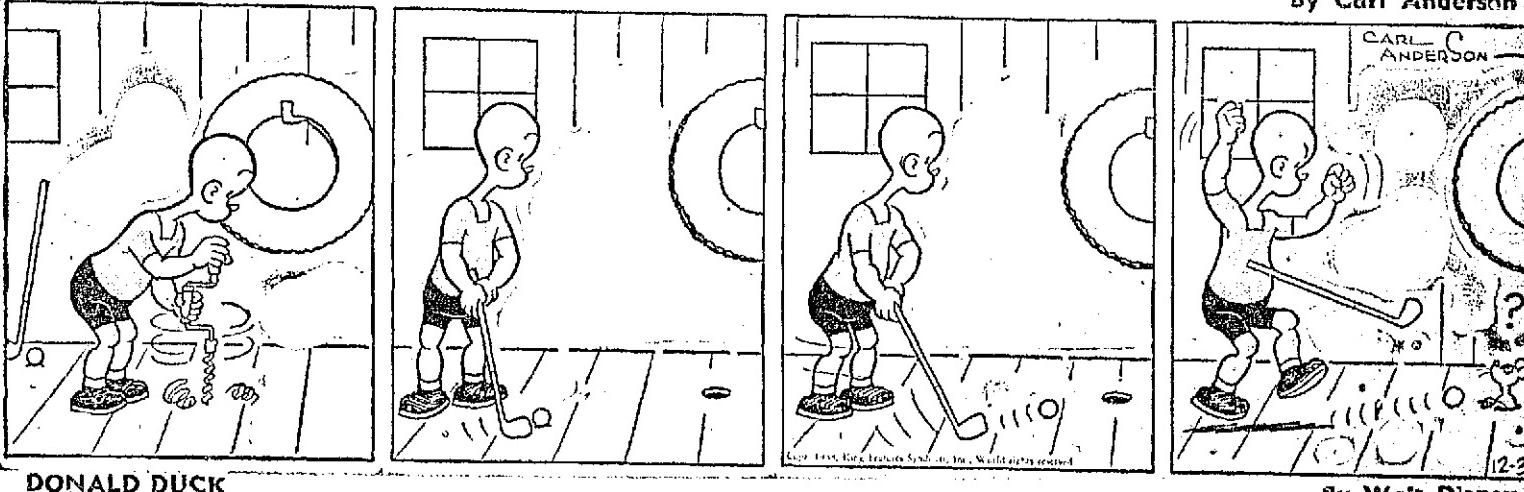
VIC FLINT



WASH TUBBS



HENRY



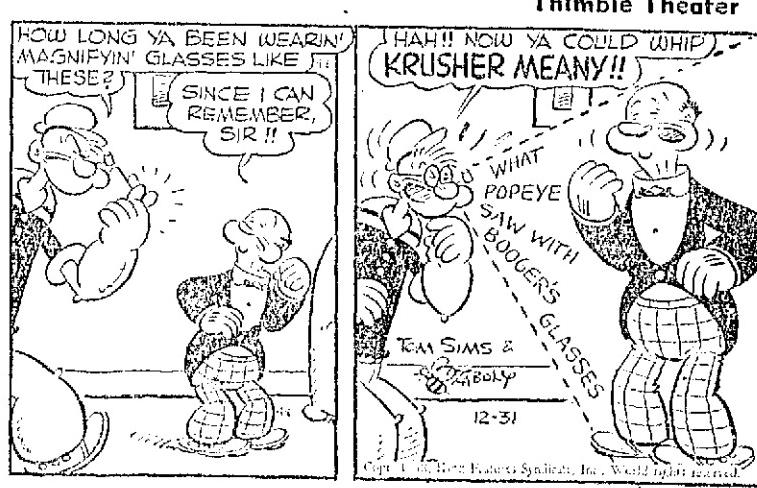
FUNNY BUSINESS



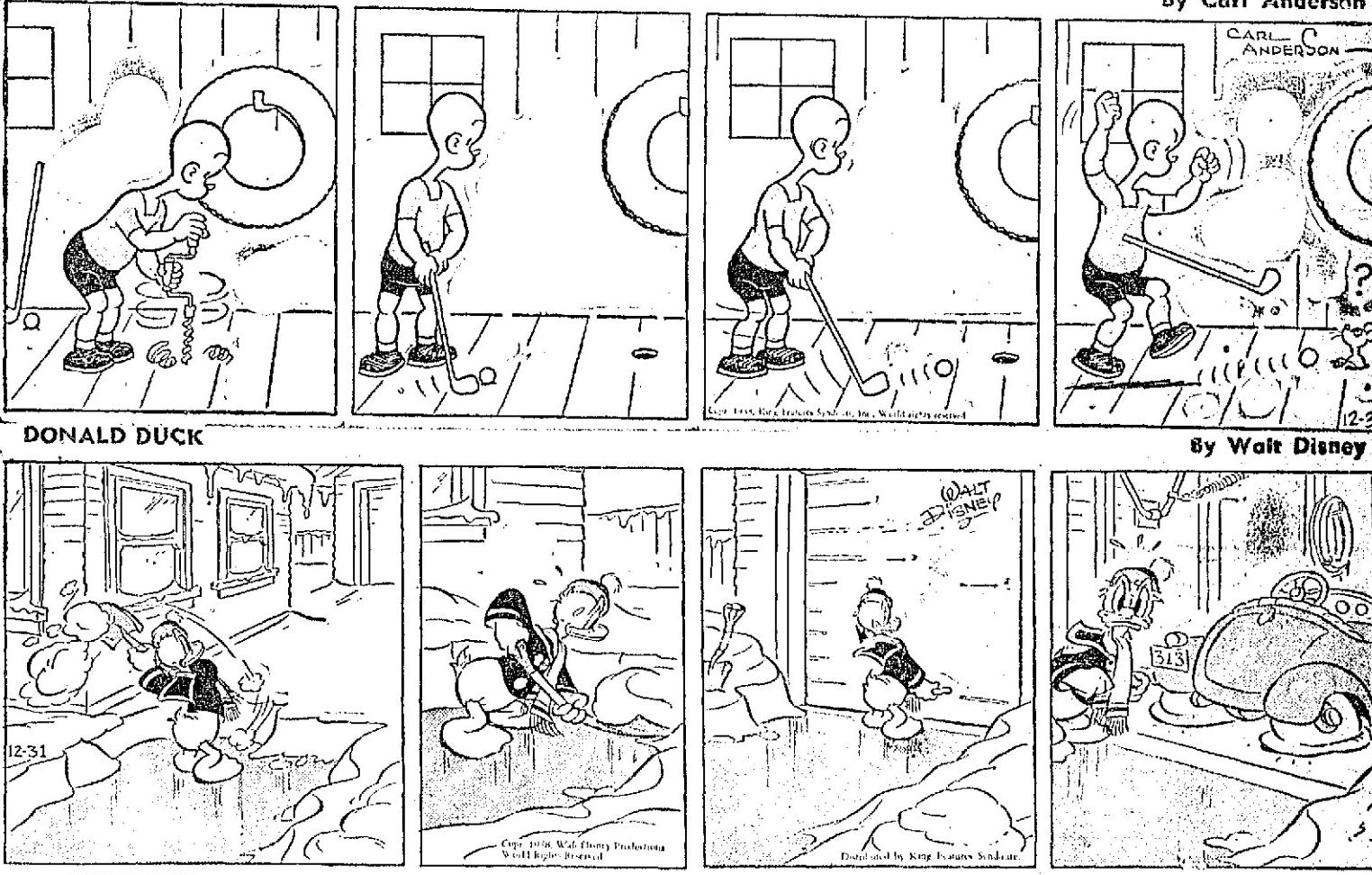
By Hershberger



By Blosser



Thimble Theater



OUT OUR WAY



By J. R. Williams



With Major Hoople



BUGS BUNNY



By Roy Goffe

By Michael O'Malley & Reinhart

By Leslie Turner

By V. T. Hamlin

By Edgar Martin

CLASSIFIED

Ads Must Be In Office Day Before Publication

Wanted to Buy

GOOD PRICES PAID FOR HIGH
grade milch cows. See Avery
Wilson, Phone 5613x-2.

WOOD RANGE, ALL WHITE,
Phone 1136 or 393-1331.

Takers Up

BAY HORSE, WEIGHT 850
pounds, J. C. Baker, 6 miles
on Columbus Highway.

For Rent

HOUSE, 5 ACRES AND 2 FARMS.
See R. M. Rogers, 621 South Fulton.

APARTMENT UPSTAIRS UN-
furnished, Foster Avenue Apartments.
Phone 417.

APARTMENT UPSTAIRS UN-
furnished, on South Walnut Street.
Phone 417.

ONE FLAT TOP OFFICE DESK
and chair. \$35. 503 South Elm.
29-61

Rates are for Continuous
Insertions Only

All Want Ads Cash in Advance
Not Taken Over the Phone

For Sale

TWO ROOM HOUSE, PHONE
1176-W-2. Bargain for cash. 28-31

GOOD BOIS'D ARC POSTS AT
reasonable prices. See E. M. Mc-
Williams at McWilliams' Store,
Hope, Arkansas. 9-1mo

FRYERS, BATTERY RAISED
White Rocks. \$1.00 each. Phone
986-W, Vernon Osburn, 805 W. 6th
Street.

2 ROOM UNFURNISHED APART-
MENT. Apply at 409 North Hamil-
ton.

TWO ROOM UNFURNISHED APART-
MENT. Bills paid. 600 Pond
Street. Mrs. J. W. Godwin, Phone
1261-W.

THREE ROOM FURNISHED
apartment, private bath, utilities
paid. Mrs. G. J. Downing, Phone
588-W.

SIX ROOM HOUSE, 29 ACRES,
old Fulton highway, 1½ miles east.
Rent reduced. 320 South Elm
Street. Phone 731.

WILL THE PERSON WHOSE
umbrella I took through mistake
from the First Presbyterian
church Tuesday night, please phone
308 so I may return it.

31-3t

Services Offered

FLOOR SANDING 3c TO 4c PER
square foot, also floors finished.
Vernon Osburn, 805 W. 6th, phone
986-W.

INCOME TAX TIME. CHARGES
reasonable. Farmers with gross
incomes over \$600, and many
others are required to file by
January 15. See me at my office
on Cotton Row or phone for ap-
pointment. J. W. Strickland.

31-2w

Lost

LADIES BLACK PURSE IN
Saenger Theatre Sunday, Decem-
ber 26, after 4:30 p.m. Phone
483-W.

3 MONTHS OLD BOSTON BULL
dog. Black with white markings.
Lost somewhere in vicinity of 6th
and Elm streets. Reward offered
for return. Phone 17 or 1120.

31-3t

Real Estate for Sale

GOOD HOUSE, FIVE ROOMS AND
bath, Venetian blinds, attic fan
and garage. Close in. Vacant. A.
H. Eversmeyer.

31-3t

FOR SALE

Surfaced Oak Lumber —
\$40.00 per Thousand

GENERAL BOX COMPANY
PRESCOTT, ARKANSAS

REMOVED FREE

Within 40 Miles
**DEAD HORSES, COWS
and CRIPPLES**

Texarkana Rendering Plant
Dial 3-7023 (phone collect)
If No Answer Dial 3-5770

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a comfortable innerspring.

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Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler

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By King Features Syndicate.

The first expose of the vicious
character of the riff-raff who got
into the American pay plus overtime
bonuses for sailing aboard Ameri-
can merchant ships in the
earliest days in the Proceedings
of the United States Naval Insti-
tute, a highly professional publica-
tion, is aimed for naval officers.
While the war was on, the Ameri-
can merchant marine was treated
as the property of the maritime
unions. The favored union was the
national maritime union of the
CIO, which followed the Communists
in distinguishing his bosses. Joseph
Curran, the president, was indis-
tinguishable from his Communist
colleagues during the war, but he
pretends, at least, that in some
internal political fight since V-

Day he broke with the Bolsheviks.

Like Mike Quill, of the trans-
port workers, he now professes to be
a Nazi. It is hard to see whether
they have changed. After all, Stalin signed up with Hitler.

The article in the Naval Institute
Proceedings was written by Lieut.
Howard F. Crouch, of the coast
guard, the service which had the
difficult duty of trying merchant
marine criminals, from murders
and Communist saboteurs to pil-
lagers during the war. This duty
was the more difficult because
Curran and other unionists, in
cluding many Communists, enjoyed
the favor of the White House
and the war labor board. Thus any
patriotic officer who offended them
took risk of political per-
secution. It was difficult, too, be-
cause law and jurisdiction were
vague and witnesses were hard to
find.

Mr. Crouch would have risked
his future in writing his article
when Roosevelt and his wife were
in the White House. Even now he
takes some chance because the na-
tional maritime union raised a strident
protest the minute the publication
hit the mail chutes. His future
will bear watching for this reason.

The jersey of the great halfback
who graduates next month will be
placed in a glass case in the foyer
of the university fieldhouse.

Fights Last Night

By The Associated Press

Minneapolis — Glen Flanagan,

120-1-2, St. Paul, and Miguel Ace-
vado, 129, Havana, drew 10.

Hollywood, Calif. — Alfredo Es-
cobar, 132-1-2, Los Angeles, out-
pointed Jose Cardenes, 130-1-2.

Mexico City — Chico Varona,

117, Havana, knocked out Billy

Nixon, 146, Philadelphia 7.

By United Press

Rumford, Me. — Timothy Endicott

Hayes, 127, Boston, outpointed

Lloyd Hudson, 130, Dan., 10.

Fall River, Mass. — Doug Rad-
ford, 145, Atlantic City, N. J., out-
pointed Ike Jenkins, 144, New

York, 10.

FOUND SHOT TO DEATH

Paragould, Dec. 30 — John

C. Garrett, 36, was found shot to
death in his hotel room here today.

Coroner Wilson C. Newberry

said the death was a suicide.

Garrett had been here since

Christmas. He reportedly was em-
ployed by the McLucy Electric

company of St. Louis.

Garrett was unmarried. Four

sisters and four brothers survive.

From a recent review of dis-
ciplinary cases it does not appear
that we now have such a merchant
marine. Insubordination, inatten-
tion to duty, intoxication, inepti-
tude, willful carelessness, subver-
sion and other similar acts do ex-
ist.

There are cases of assault with
deadly weapons (meat cleaver,
fire axe, broken bottles, etc.) with
intent to kill. Intentionally throw-
ing crew members overboard,
mentality and physical incompetence
resulting from narcotics addiction;
setting fire to one's own room
shooting of crew members during
a drunken party; gross negligence
of members, homosexuality, dan-
gerous psychopathics, continuous sex
conduct; theft of mail, and continuous
refusal to obey lawful orders. There
are also routine cases involving de-
sertion, stowaways, sleeping on
watch, destruction of ship's prop-
erty, theft of ship's stores and so
on.

Perhaps one of the most com-
mon breaches of discipline is as-
sault upon masters and officers by
angered members of the crew. In

a French port, the first assistant

engineer while ashore was sever-
ely beaten by two crew members

using brass knuckles. He was hos-
pitalized for 8 days. It is believed

the iron intended to maim or kill

him. Twice during the voyage he

had disciplined the men with log

book for failing to maintain at

their station until relieved."

The trench authorities preferred

not to bother and the slingers re-
turned to the ship boasting that
they had gotten away with it.

There are cases, Mr.

Crouch continues, "where murder of one

man by another has been com-
mitted on foreign soil and nothing

has been done about it. Action by

the coast guard is limited to pro-
secutions leading to the suspension

and revocation of documents which

a master must have to qualify for

service on a merchant vessel.

Intoxication and insolence still

exist, while assault can cause

any amount of unnecessary irregularity.

Consequently the officer in charge

notified to the master that the mil-
itary man had failed to wash the pots

and pans as he had failed to do

several times previously."

There was quite a row about this

and the gullible bashed the mas-

ter's desk, pawed him out, and

then had no more time to dis-
cuss the matter and was going to

kick the master out. A little later the

same master attacked the third

mate and the captain finally drew

the master's knife and the mate

had to put him in irons.

A Marine sailor, somewhat crazy

and under the influence of mari-

juana, tried to enter a woman

to be done on the problem of dis-

covering the master's waterfront

with a pistol in the merchant marine."

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